

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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PASS MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

EO 11652N/A
TAGS: EWWT BEXP PL
SUBJ: POLISH REQUEST FOR COOPERATION IN SHIPBUILDING AND
MARINE TECHNOLOGY

REF: STATE 129184

1. WE BELIEVE THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE U.S. MARITIME
ADMINISTRATION AND POLAND IN SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEER-
ING WOULD PROVIDE EXCELLENT COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
U.S. FIRMS IN ONE OF POLAND'S STRONGEST INDUSTRIES. THE
POLISH LEADERSHIP REGARDS THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY AS THE
SHINING EXAMPLE OF POLAND'S ABILITY TO PRODUCE HIGH-
TECHNOLOGY, QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR SALE IN WESTERN MARKETS,
AND WOULD CONSIDER U.S. COOPERATION IN THIS INDUSTRY AS A
POSITIVE STEP.

2. THE POLISH SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY HAS THUS FAR CON-
CENTRATED ON SPECIALIZED BESSELS, SUCH AS LPG AND CAUSTIC-
CHEMICAL CARRIERS AND BULK-CARGO VESSELS, AND HAS THERE-
FORE BEEN ABLE TO WEATHER THE SHARP DROP-OFF IN TANKER
CONSTRUCTION RATHER WELL (76 WARSAW 4529). THIS

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POLICY ALLOWED POLAND TO INCREASE ITS 1976 EARNINGS
ON SHIP CONSTRUCTION BY OVER 10 PERCENT IN SPITE OF AN 11 PER CENT
DECLINE IN THE TONNAGE PRODUCED. THE POLES WILL CONTINUE
TO HAVE A REAL INTEREST IN ACQUIRING TECHNOLOGY AND
EQUIPMENT WHICH CAN ASSIST THEM IN REDUCING LABOR COST
AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTION IN THIS
FIELD, AND EXCHANGES WITH MARAD MIGHT IMPROVE THE

COMMERCIAL CHANCES OF U.S. FIRMS. THE POLES HAVE PUR-

CHUED WESTERN LICENSES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THESE HIGHER TECHNOLOGY VESSELS. THEY WOULD THEREFORE BE INTERESTED IN EXCHANGES WHICH MIGHT STRENGTHEN THEIR OWN ENGINEERING AND DESIGN CAPABILITIES.

3. THE FOLLOWING AREAS OFFER GOOD POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH MARAD, ALTHOUGH WE ARE SURE THAT MANY OTHER CAN BE DEVELOPED THROUGH FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH CENTROMOR AND OTHER GOP AGENCIES:

-- SHIP PROPULSION. (GENERAL ELECTRIC HAS HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE POLES ON COOPERATION IN PRODUCTION OF TURBINE AND DIESEL ENGINES. ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE TRENDS IN PROPULSION, PARTICULARLY IN THE ECONOMICS OF ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS, WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST).

--METHODS OF IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN CONSTRUCTION OF GAS AND CHEMICAL CARRIERS, SINCE THEY REQUIRE LARGE INPUTS OF HIGH-COST, IMPORTED SPECIALITY STEELS.

--THE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT, PARTICULARLY EQUIPMENT WHICH MIGHT BE REQUIRED IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUTURE ON TANKERS CALLING AT U.S. PORTS.

--PORT DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT. (ALTHOUGH THE INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR MODERNIZATION OF HULANJ'S PORTS IS WELL UNDER WAY, THERE MIGHT BE COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES IN THIS FIELD AS WELL.)

4. WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT CENTROMOR HAD IN MIND WHEN IT REFERRED TO COOPERATION IN SHIP OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL TRAINING. THESE AREAS WOULD SEEM TO BE OF INTEREST PRIMARILY TO POLISH OCEAN LINES AND THE POLISH STEAMSHIP COMPANY AND COULD BE DISCUSSED WITH THEM FURTHER.

5. WE HOPE THAT MARAD WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO CENTROMOR'S INQUIRY. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO ASSIST IN PURSUING THE MATTER AND ARE GLAD TO SEE THAT IT IS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS SUGGESTED FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE PROPOSED VISIT OF DIRECTOR BANK LATER THIS MONTH.

DAVIES

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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